Alumni Spotlight: Ron Turo, Esq.

By Elizabeth Binder

When students walk through Trinity’s doors, many may hold onto dreams of the future as beacons to motivate them throughout their high school careers. To Ron Turo, a 1973 Trinity graduate, his beacon came to him when he took an aptitude test as a sophomore that indicated his inclination toward a legal career. Upon graduating from high school, Mr. Turo spent a year working in Holy Spirit Hospital’s operating room. He maintained an interest in medical studies until college, where he diverted his path towards history and political studies. Receiving a bachelor's degree at Penn State, he later graduated from Dickinson Law School, after which he served as a public defender for three years.

When he left law school, Mr. Turo desired to be a criminal defense lawyer, and after he became more actively involved in his defense work, his interest in representing children flourished. Beginning his own private practice three years after graduating from Dickinson, he became a full time juvenile defense lawyer in 1989. He has continued to represent all Cumberland County juveniles, including Trinity students, between the ages of ten and eighteen who are charged with a criminal offense, specifically those whose parents do not hire their own attorneys.

Along with Mr. Turo, three others, coincidentally all of whom are Trinity graduates, play crucial roles in the Cumberland County juvenile court system. “The Trinity connection is extraordinarily unusual, but, based on what we’re doing, I’m very proud of that,” Mr. Turo says regarding the fact that the four most important adults in the courtroom, Honorable Tom Placey of 1980, prosecutor Scott Jocken, Esq. of 2003, and probation officer Frank Shartle of 1996, received diplomas from our school.

Mr. Turo’s role involves consulting with probation officers about resolving defense cases and seeing how the kids are doing, talking to families and counselors, and reading police reports and psychological evaluations. When court is held on a Monday morning, anywhere between six and fifteen juveniles enter the system. Adding that “we do a lot more for our kids than we do for our adults,” Mr. Turo comments that working with children takes on a special significance.

As soon as a juvenile is charged with an offense, the probation officer becomes involved with the individual, checking them in, reviewing their school situation, and reviewing any history of counseling or screenings. From start to finish, the probation officer acts as an advisor, making recommendations to the judge and guiding the juvenile throughout his or her duration in the court system. Probation officers involved with adult cases, however, do not advise until the adult is already convicted and sentenced. Some cases undergo a trial, and the judge must decide what charges, if any, to apply. Most cases, called consent decrees, occur when a juvenile with no previous offenses in the court can have his or her record expunged after turning eighteen. Otherwise, in detention hearings, the juveniles are incarcerated.

Reflecting on his four years at Trinity, Mr. Turo remarks: “Trinity was an extremely important part of my life. I had an absolutely fantastic experience,” and, he adds, he sent all three of his children to Trinity for its excellent education. “I know that the education I received at Trinity served me well,” he says.

As a firsthand witness to how the consequences of adolescents’ choices affects their lives, he wishes to impart wisdom on the current students of Trinity. “Don’t get in trouble! Most people don’t realize that if you have a juvenile record and we don’t put you through a consent decree, it will affect loans, getting into the military, and obtaining certain licenses.” Mr. Turo’s message rings true; what is common sense is easily forgotten without a stern reminder. “The world is a lot more difficult to deal with now,” he adds. As far as the kids he represents in the court system, however, he says that “we work very, very hard to give tools to the kids so that they don’t reoffend. The recidivism rate for juveniles is very low in our system. We’re very proud of that. We want these kids to become law abiding citizens.”
Trinity Homecoming, 2017

By Olivia Wyland

Once upon a time, in the kingdom of Trinity High School, all of the princes and princesses came together and danced their way through a magical night to remember. The theme for the night was Once Upon a Time.

Throughout the week, students dressed according to the theme. Monsters University allowed everyone to dress in college apparel. On Tuesday, Sleeping Beauties went to class in pajamas. Ohana means family! On Ohana day, everyone wore their Hawaiian shirts and leis. Thursday was Mirror Mirror day, where students could dress to twin with each other.

To end the busy week, Field Day was held on Friday! Thanks to Sister Susan and the Activities Reps, students divided up into different teams/countries to compete with one another. Activities included: volleyball, flag football, guess that song, castle ball, scooter races, and many more. Congratulations to team Mexico for taking the win!

Friday night lights on October 6th was the homecoming football game: Trinity Shamrocks against the Steel High Rollers. It was a close game, but Trinity lost with 30 seconds left on the clock at 28 to 27. Sean Good and Noelle Chavey were crowned King and Queen at half time of the game.

On Saturday, October 7th, students attended Trinity's homecoming dance in the school. Revolving around the theme of Once Upon a Time, the bus port, hallways, cafeteria, and courtyard were creatively decorated with silver trees, fairy lights, beanstalks, rose petals, and a glass slipper. It was a good turnout of 450 kids! Thank you to Student Council for all of their hard work including creating the decorations as well as helping with the music selections. The new use of the courtyard worked out fantastically! And a big thank you to all volunteers and chaperones!

Freshmen Retreat

By Patrick Caffrey

On the fifteenth of September, this year's ninth grade class traveled by bus to Ski Roundtop to participate in the Freshmen Retreat. The first order of business, which exemplified the Catholic virtues promoted and wholeheartedly encouraged by Trinity High School, was to celebrate Mass. After this concluded, some smaller groups led by Ski Roundtop employees went to the low-ropes course, where teamwork and camaraderie were imperative. Other groups participated in the high-ropes course, where the focus was on individual achievement. This was a primary motivation for the freshmen, some of whom escaped the confines of their respective comfort zones and walked tightropes high above the rest of the group. After lunch was eaten, the groups who had climbed the high-ropes course moved to the low-ropes course and vice versa. After all was said and done, the class returned to Trinity to await dismissal in the cafeteria while being given paper to pen letters to themselves in the future.

Above: Homecoming Court (from left to right, back row): Frankie Lafferty, Tommy Kirchhoff, Derek Borza, Annie Flake, Hannah Brenkacs, Arden Cudahy (front row): Caleb Bentley, Caitlin Phillips, King Sean Good, and Queen Noelle Chavez

Pictures from Pennlive
Fall Sports Update

Football by Aaron Cartwright

The Rocks leave this season with a 3-7 record. The three wins were played at home. Points were in no shortage for Trinity. Many games were high scoring affairs. One such game was a 34-45 loss to Middletown. Two of the wins were complete blowouts. The games against Lancaster Catholic and Boiling Springs were won by a margin of over 30 points.

The Offense this season was dynamic. In most of the games this year they put up over 20 points. They were efficient and had an average turnover rate. Many games were considered to be shootouts. The special teams unit did their job. The kickoffs kept away any huge returns. They mainly kept the ball low to the ground and the kicker was more often than not on point. The kicking unit simply did what they were supposed to do. The guys have the potential to take the team even farther next year.

The coaching has been excellent this year. Coach Jensen puts a lot of energy into this team. He is a coach who really loves to run the football. The versatile backs he has allow him to expand his playbook. Coach Jensen is not afraid to try some risky tactics. He faked punts in games when they were at mid-field. That takes heart. Success or failure, those plays convey one message: Trinity is not afraid of what you might do.

Jensen cannot do things by himself, though. We cannot forget the support of his assistant coaches, Mr. Gagliano, Coach Powell, Coach Shea, Coach Ryan, and Coach Rhoad.

All things being said, this team has the potential to go far next season. I enjoyed watching these games, and I believe that this team will only get better.

Golf by Elizabeth Binder

Trinity’s golf team has been making the District Championships for the past several years, and they did not disappoint this year! Congratulations to senior Anthony DeFrank for making Regional Championships.

Cheerleading by Olivia Wyland

The Trinity Cheerleaders had an eventful season cheering at all of the football games this fall! They worked hard on performing new stunts to pump up the crowd. They are currently preparing for the upcoming basketball season. Check out their Instagram account: @shamrock_cheerleading. Also, a congratulations to Juniors Cheyenne Pohl and Molly Young for earning their spot as cheer captains next year! Go rocks!

Volleyball by Franchetta Groves

The Volleyball team had amazing success this season with 20 wins and only 2 losses overall. After working hard and training, they were able to make it to the district semi-final where they lost to York Catholic. Congratulations to all the girls and Coach Barrick and Mrs. Lindholm for another awesome season!
Trunk or Treat
By Franchetta Groves

On October 25th, Trinity held its annual Trunk or Treat for the partner schools, where children could trick or treat, go through the haunted house and do other fun Halloween activities. There were some Elsas, some Marios, and lots of smiles. Many different student groups participated by decorating the trunk of their car with a theme and passing out candy to the kids. Cheerleading decorated their car in a western cowboy theme, Shamrock Ambassadors decked their car out in an Under the Sea theme, and THON’s decorations were out of this world, which makes sense since their theme was space! There was also a car themed as a slumber party, one as a witch’s lair, and so many more. After going to all of the trunks and receiving their candy the kids then went inside for the rest of the Halloween activities.

To get to the haunted house the kids got to ride down a slide that was set up on the stairs. After the slide everyone could walk down the hallway to the haunted house that was filled with lights and spider webs. Crawling through the tunnels they faced ghosts, ghouls, and goblins. If you survived to the end of the haunted house you would get a sweet reward. After the haunted house the kids proceeded to the main hallway for a hay ride. The evening was filled with smiles and spooks that were sure to make everyone’s Halloween sweeter.

Marching Band
By Elizabeth Binder

This year’s marching band theme was a mashup of music between Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story, which won the band 16th place at the Atlantic Coastal Championships in October. The band has seen great improvement this year, and many members participated in the intensive Band Camp during the first week in August.

Our Writers

From left to right: Franchetta Groves, Junior; Olivia Wyland, Junior; Aaron Cartwright, Freshman; Patrick Caffrey, Freshman. Moderator: Ms. Walsh (not pictured)

Elizabeth Binder, Senior Editor